LEVY OF PADDY IN HASSAN DISTRICT

574. SRI K. M. RUDRAPPA (Sakleshpur).—Will the Minister for Food and Forests be pleased to state : —

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that paddy crop in Malnad parts of Hassan District was badly damaged owing to irregular rainfall in the year 1973 and as a result there has been less yield of paddy this year per acre ;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the demand of levy paddy imposed on the ryots of that area is too heavy and that there has been public representations through ryots' conference for suitable reduction in the demand of such levy ;

(c) if so, the steps taken ?

SRI K.H. PATIL (Minister for Food and Forests).—(a) It has come to the notice of Government that there has been a reduction in the yield by about 10 per cent due to dry spell during September, 1973.

(b) No instances of collection of excess levy other than what is due as per levy order in Malnad areas of Hassan district have come to the notice of Government. Representations from the farmers Federation of India Sakleshpur and Bharathiya Jana Sangha Arsikere, have been received urging for collection of levy at the old scales prevailing during previous years.

(c) Since the demand is as per levy order and reduction in yield was only 10 per cent, no remission in the quantum of levy is permissible. Hence, no action was considered necessary on the representations referred to.

LEVY OF RAGI

605. SRI B. PUTTASWAMAIAH (Ramanagaram).—

Will the Minister for Food and Forests be pleased to state —

(a) whether Government have imposed levy on the growers of ragi also this year ;

(b) whether Government are aware that the ragi crop was not satisfactory this year in the whole state ;

(c) if so, whether Government intend to abolish the ragi levy?

SRI K. H. PATIL (Minister for Food and Forests.)—

(a) Yes.

(b) Government are aware of the partial failure of the ragi crop in some areas.

(*c*) Under the Levy Order, there is a suitable provision enabling the grower to urge for reduction of levy under certain circumstances. Such requests will be considered according to merits.

LEVY OF FOODGRAINS

620. SRI D. B. KALMANKAR (Afzalpur).—

Will the Minister for Food and Forests be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the target fixed for procurement of foodgrains for the current year;

(*b*) the foodgrains on which levy is imposed and their rate per acre.,

(*c*) the target achieved so far (foodgrains itemwise).,

(*d*) the purchase rate per item of foodgrains per quintal and their respective rates in the open market ?

SRI K. H. PATIL (Minister for Food and Forests) —

(*a*) Paddy, Jowar and Ragi are being procured under the levy orders. The targets fixed during the current year are as hereunder.—

Paddy	...	3.50 lakh tonnes (including 1 lakh tonnes out of open market purchase)
Jowar	...	0.65 lakh tonnes
Ragi	...	0.25 lakh tonnes

(*b*) (i) Paddy, Jowar and Ragi

(ii) For rates of levy *vide* statement placed on the Table of the House*

(*c*) *Targets achieved as on 26-2-1973.*

Paddy	...	1,38,716 tonnes including open market purchases.
Jowar	...	1,045 tonnes
Ragi	..	180 tonnes

(*d*) ...

*Copy placed in the Karnataka Legislature library vide No 28 5-4-1974.